

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

Church of God Servant



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Blessed Be His Name!

I have a Friend whose faithful love
Is more than all the world to me;
'Tis higher than the heights above,
And deeper than the soundless sea;
So old, so new, so strong, so true—
Before the earth received its frame
He loved me. Blessed be His name!

His was the highest place above,
Adored by all the sons of flame,
Yet, such His self-denying love,
He laid aside His crown, and came
To seek the lost; and at the cost
Of heavenly rank and earthly fame,
He sought me. Blessed be His name!

It was a lonely path He trod,
From every human soul apart;
Known only to Himself and God
Was all the grief that filled His heart:
Yet from the track He turned not back
Till, where I lay in want and shame,
He found me. Blessed be His name!

Then dawned at last that day of dread
When, desolate, yet undismayed,
With wearied frame and thorn-crowned head
He, now forsaken and betrayed,
Went up for me to Calvary;
And, dying there in grief and shame,
He saved me. Blessed be His name!

Long as I live my song shall tell
The wonders of His matchless love.
And, when at last I rise to dwell
In the bright home prepared above,
My joy shall be His face to see,
And bowing then with loud acclaim
I'll praise Him. Blessed be His name!

—C. A. Tydeman

The New Life

In Proverbs 23:26 we find these words: "My son, give me thine heart and let thine eyes observe my ways." This text is setting forth two important truths. The first part is to the unsaved soul who is letting his affections go after things of time and sense, the things of the world, and thereby refusing, resisting, and rebelling against the ways and thoughts of God.

In order to get saved, a soul must first become awakened to the fact that he is lost, and then alarmed because of this knowledge inasmuch that he will hate the life that is causing him to be so attached to earthly things. For Jesus says, "If any man come unto me and hate not his own life he cannot be my disciple." So, dear soul, do not try to cultivate the self-life in order to get saved, for the Word says, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God; not of works lest any man should boast." Eph. 2:8, 9.

This Scripture teaches us that one cannot save his own soul by his own power or wisdom, neither can the preacher nor the deacon save one, but salvation comes as a free gift from God. One must come individually to God, being sorry that he has neglected and refused Him; come with a repenting heart, for He will not despise a broken heart and a contrite spirit. By this we learn that repentance toward God and faith in the innocent blood of Christ as an atonement for sins, will bring to a soul peace from heaven, and the load of guilt and sin will pass away and all things will become new. One will have received a new life; old things will have passed away, and that one will be a new creature in Christ Jesus. Praise God!

Many Scriptures teach us how to approach God for the free gift of salvation. In 1 John 1:9, we read, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." After we have repented, confessed, and forsaken our sins, if we do not by faith claim the gift of salvation, we in actions and behavior

leave God as one who has lied, which is not possible for God to do.

The right things for you to do after you have confessed and forever forsaken your sins is to count God true and claim forgiveness of sins through faith in His blood. When you have a settled knowledge that your sins are all gone and his peace abides within, then you are ready to consecrate your life and all to God to receive the gift of the Holy Ghost, which is "Christ in you, the hope of glory."

We read in Ezekiel 36:26, 27, "A new heart also will I give you and a new spirit will I put within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh, and I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments and do them." By these Scriptures we see that the work that is wrought in us is wholly the work of God, and we receive the change by confession and yielding to Him. Oh, dear soul, hasten to the Master's feet and behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world. Behold Him in the garden when He was so burdened and heavy in soul that He cried out in great agony unto the Father that the cup of suffering might pass, but in the next breath He says, "Not my will, but thine be done," and His sweat was as great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

Behold Him when they put a scarlet robe on Him and a crown of thorns on His brow, and bowed their knees in mockery. Behold Him under the load of the cross on His way to Calvary and see the cruel-hearted men driving the nails through His feet and hands; see the spear being thrust into His side, and behold the water and the blood gushing out. All of this He meekly and willingly bore that you might have eternal life abiding in your soul. Then consider for a moment yourself as being one with the throng that abused and slew our blessed Savior, of which throng you are if you are unsaved, for the life that you now have is drawing you on from God, from all that is pure and holy, to destruction and everlasting punishment; for your present life is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can it be. Oh, dear soul, repent that iniquity be not your ruin; for God is tender, kind, and true, and only seeks your good in all things. He desires you to be as an obedient son that will be moved by His correction and yield your members to righteousness unto holiness, and give thanks and praise unto God for His unspeakable gift.

In Isaiah 55:7, 8, we read, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him: and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord." And the text teaches us not only to give Him our hearts, but to observe His ways, which are all together different from our ways. Then we shall no longer walk according to the course of the world, but our affections will be on things above where Christ

sitteth at the right hand of God. Our conversation will be in heaven from whence we look for the Lord Jesus Christ, who is our life. By continuing in His goodness, when He appears we shall also appear with Him in glory.

—Fred Pruitt

(Reprint of a tract kept in stock for distribution.)

The Great Memorial Day of the Gospel

The two greatest events that ever occurred on earth we have in the gospel. They are the **death** and the **resurrection** of Jesus Christ. The salvation of all mankind centers in Christ's death and resurrection. All other events fade into mere insignificance when compared with these. Two monuments have been erected in the Christian age to commemorate these events. They are the "Lord's Supper" and the "Lord's Day." The first is in "remembrance" of his death; the last commemorates his resurrection. The Lord's Supper is to show his death "till he come"; the Lord's Day is a day of holy convocation, a day of rejoicing and spiritual devotion, because "he is risen."

There is nothing in the events of Saturday—the seventh day—to inspire a Christian under the gospel. Christ was in the tomb. A guard of Roman soldiers were carefully watching the place. A sable gloom hung over the scene, and the pall of death cast its dark shadow. Yes, the world's Savior lay under the power of death. His body rested in the sepulcher and his soul was in Hades. It was a restless and disheartening day to the disconsolate disciples. When their Lord was buried their hopes died with him (Luke 24:17-21). It was a day of mourning and sadness. The disciples were weeping, Mary the mother was heart-broken, and if ever angels wept, it was on that day. If ever hell rejoiced and demons shouted it was on that Saturday. The remembrance of that day would always be a grievous one to the church. It would recall the agonies of death, the cross, the bitter cries, the expiring groan, the mournful sepulcher. It would ever after create a feeling of sorrow. Yes, the events of that day—that Jewish Sabbath Day—have forever spoiled it to the Christian heart. Think of it, the wicked Jews were rejoicing and Satan triumphing! If ever the devil had hope, it was while Jesus was dead, during the Sabbath Day.

But as the first day of the week—Sunday—begins to dawn, a mighty angel like lightning descends, the earth quakes, the guards fall like dead men, the stone rolls away, the tomb opens, and Christ arises a conqueror over death, hell, and the grave (Matt. 28:1-4). Satan's last hope is gone; the wicked Jews are dismayed; the holy women are glad; the hope of the disciples is revived; angels rejoice; the salvation of a world is secured; the sufferings and humiliation of the Son of God are ended, and he walks forth the Almighty Saviour, the Lord of all. This is the **Resurrection Day**. No wonder it became the memorial day of the church.

It was the resurrection day on which everything turned. Jesus might have lived the pure life he did, might have wrought all the miracles he did, might

have died on the cross as he did, might have been buried as he was, yet all this would not have saved a soul if he had not risen from the dead. "If Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; you are yet in your sins. Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished" (1 Cor. 15:17, 18). The resurrection completed the work which made Jesus both Savior and Lord. Jesus himself, when asked for the evidence of his authority, pointed to his resurrection on the third day as the proof of it (John 2:18-21; Matt. 12:28-40; 16:21). Paul says that Jesus was "declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead" (Rom. 1:4). It was this that proved his divinity. It was this that converted His own brethren in the flesh. Prior to the resurrection "his brethren believed not on him." That there will be a final day of judgment God "hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead" (Acts 17:31).

Christ only is our hope and salvation. Him the Jews rejected and put to death. To the third day he lay in the tomb, and the sorrowful disciples said, "We trusted that it had been he which would have redeemed Israel" (Luke 24:21). With his death, all their hopes seem to have expired. All was lost. But on the third day after the crucifixion they heard of his resurrection. Mary saw the Lord and told the rest. Though their faith was weak, hope began to revive. In the evening they were drawn together in assembly. Behold, he appeared in their midst. So it is true the Lord has risen! His resurrection confounds the Jews who rejected and crucified Him. The stone they had rejected suddenly triumphs and becomes the head of the corner. He in whom they had hoped and trusted for redemption has actually now "become their salvation." The great day of triumph, when Jesus arose from the dead, is "the day which the Lord hath made"; hence John rightly terms it the "Lord's Day." A day when all the Christian world from the resurrection to this time have been led to set apart for the assembling together in prayer and praise to God. "In it we will rejoice and be glad," said the prophet. "We celebrate Sunday as a joyful day," said Tertullian, one of the primitive church fathers. And so say the redeemed of the Lord generally.

We keep days because of what occurred on them. Two of the mightiest events in the history of Christianity and the church occurred upon the first day of the week—Christ's resurrection, and Pentecost. The great outpouring of the Holy Spirit as recorded in Acts 2, the dedication of the new covenant sanctuary—church—its complete organization as a distinct body, the marvelous conversion of three thousand souls, all took place on this day. Jesus had said that "repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." This great and ever-widening stream of salvation work destined to become "a great mountain and fill the whole earth," and finally "cover the earth as the waters cover the sea," had its "begin-

ning at Jerusalem." Pentecost was on the first day of the week. We humbly ask: How could it be otherwise that this day should become a memorial day to the Christian church? The Resurrection, Pentecost, and the first day of the week are always associated together in the Christian's mind.

It is not the day but the events that occurred on the day that we Christians celebrate. One day is not a whit better than another. One day is no more holy than another. It is not Sunday, because it is Sunday, that we keep—it is the resurrection day, the Pentecostal day, and this occurred upon "the first day of the week"—Sunday.

—H. M. R.

Praying Mary

"Pray without ceasing" 1 Thess. 5:17.

A number of ministers were assembled for the discussion of difficult questions. Among others it was asked how the command to "pray without ceasing" could be complied with. Various suppositions were started and at length one of the number was appointed to write an essay upon it, to be read at the next monthly meeting; which, being overheard by a plain, sensible servant girl, she exclaimed:

"What! a whole month wanted to explain the meaning of that text! It is one of the easiest and best in the Bible."

"Well, well," said an old minister. "Mary, what can you say about it? Let us know how you understand it; can you pray all the time?"

"Oh, yes, sir."

"What, when you have so many things to do?"

"Why, sir, the more I have to do, the more I can pray."

"Indeed! Well, Mary, do let us know how it is; for most people think otherwise."

"Well, sir," said the girl, "when I first open my eyes in the morning I pray: Lord, open the eyes of my understanding; and while I am dressing I pray that I may be clothed with the robe of righteousness; and when I have washed me, I ask for a washing of regeneration; and as I begin to work, I pray that I may have strength equal to my day. When I begin to kindle up the fire, I pray that God's work may revive in my soul. And as I sweep out the house, I pray that my heart may be cleansed of all impurities; and while preparing and partaking of breakfast, I desire to be fed from the hidden manna and the sincere milk of the word; and as I am busy with the little children, I look up to God as my Father, and pray for the spirit of adoption, that I may be His child; and so on all day; everything I do furnishes me with a thought for prayer."

"Enough, enough," cried the minister, "these things are revealed to babes, and often hid from the wise and prudent; go on, Mary," said he, "pray without ceasing, and as for us, my brethren, let us bless the Lord for this exposition, and remember that 'the meek will He guide in judgment! And the meek will He teach His way.'" —Sel.

"FAITH AND VICTORY"**16-PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY**

This non-sectarian paper is edited and published in the interest of the universal CHURCH OF GOD each month (except August of each year, which is campmeeting month, and we omit an issue that month to attend these meetings) by Lawrence D. Pruitt, assisted by Marie Miles and other consecrated workers at the FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 920 W. Mansur., Guthrie, Okla. 73044

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This publication teaches salvation from all sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17:21 and manifested by the apostles and believers after Pentecost. By God's grace we teach, preach, and practice the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, the same gospel which Peter, John, and Paul preached, taught, and practiced, including the divine healing of the body. James 5:14, 15.

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the promulgation and restoration of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: Separation from the sinful world and entire devotion to the service and will of God. Its characteristics: No discipline but the Bible, no bond of union but the love of God; and no test of fellowship but the indwelling Spirit of Christ.

Through the Free Literature Fund thousands of gospel tracts are published and sent out free of charge as the Lord supplies. Co-operation of our readers is solicited, and will be appreciated in any way the Bible and the Holy Spirit teaches you to do or stirs your heart. "Freely ye have received, freely give." Read Exodus 24:2; 1st Chron. 29:9; 2 Cor. 9:7; and Luke 6:38.

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A separate Missionary Fund is maintained in order to relay missionary funds from our readers to the support of home and foreign missionaries and evangelists.

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The Church of God Chapel at Guthrie, Oklahoma is located on the corner of Sixth and W. Warner. The congregation welcomes you. —Bro. Ira D. Stover, Pastor 415 N. 14th St., P. O. Box 210, Phone BUTler 2-3244

EDITORIALS

A hearty welcome is extended to all the many new readers of the "Faith and Victory" paper who have become regular subscribers after having received the paper for the past three months. Many of you have expressed your appreciation for the one who so kindly had the paper sent to you, and you have shown your sincere interest and concern for the soul food which it contains.

These nice letters also help us here at the office to know that our "labors are not in vain in the Lord" and that "we shall reap if we faint not."

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Each month we send out several hundred sample copies, and if you find a subscription blank in your paper, please fill it out promptly and return it with the subscription price. We do not want you to miss a copy. It is our aim to enter every open door with the gospel literature, for we know by a definite experience that there is miraculous saving power in believing the gospel, even as the Apostle Paul testified: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." Rom. 1:16. An unbeliever will never witness the transforming power of Christ in his heart, but the "power of God unto salvation" will be transmitted to that soul who truly believes the gospel. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." 2 Cor. 5:17.

The Apostle Paul wrote: "I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise." Rom. 1:14. He felt that he owed a debt to the entire unsaved world, and was ever found endeavoring to pay that debt by fulfilling his part in the great Commission which Christ gave to His Church: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Mark 16:15. This obligation is not upon the minister or missionary alone, but the responsibility is upon the whole church also. We are all—clergy and laity—"workers together" in this soul-saving effort, and every saved soul should labor faithfully to carry the gospel and pay his debt to the unsaved world.

True, we are not saved by good works, but only by the merits of the blood of Christ. Yet the Scripture admonishes us to "be careful to maintain good works." Titus 3:8. "... so faith without works is dead also." James 2:26. Good works is the fruit of living faith in God. Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments," then again, "If a man love me, he will keep my words."

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The March issue of the Spanish paper, "La Luz de Esperanza" (The Light of Hope), has been mailed

to the gospel workers for use in their contacts with the people in Old Mexico, south of the California border. We pray and trust that the Holy Spirit will accompany the printed word and carry the message of salvation to the heart of each reader.

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In order to comply with the postoffice regulations in mailing out the "Beautiful Way" papers, both that for juniors and primaries, under the second class mailing permit, it was necessary for us to send out complete sets of both papers to every subscriber. For this reason, even though some did not subscribe for both papers, they will receive complete sets for both classes for the second quarter—April, May and June. However, there will be no extra charges for this quarter, and the Sunday schools may use them as they please.

In the meantime, before the third quarter, we will decide whether to continue to combine the junior and primary papers as we have done for the second quarter, or whether to have a separate mailing list for the primary papers. In that case, we will have to select a new name for the primary paper, and make application to the postoffice department for a separate second class mailing permit. The cost of the permit and keeping a separate mailing list will be considerable, so all those Sunday schools and individuals who want only the primary paper should send in their subscriptions as soon as possible.

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We are pleased to acknowledge with thanksgiving that it was a former worker here at the Lord's print shop in the years of 1944, '45 and '46 and her husband who have made the first specific contribution toward the purchase of an offset printing press to increase the production of gospel literature. By faith we see God's hand working in this long-felt need, and anticipate its fulfillment in His own time. Our dependence is upon the Lord, and we would appreciate your prayers in behalf of every phase of the publishing work.

OBITUARIES

Word has just been received from Bro. Andrew Senti of Minneapolis, Minn. that Bro. George Angermeier of Fulda, Minn., a long-time subscriber to the "Faith and Victory" paper, passed on to his reward about a month ago at the age of 82. He was living alone in his home, and it was reported that he put some gasoline in his oil stove to get it started and it exploded, burning his legs so severely that he never recovered. May the Lord comfort the bereaved relatives and friends.—Editor.

Earnest Mixon, born in January, 1893 at Ramsey, La., went to his reward on Feb. 21, 1964, at his home near Robert, La. He was married to Miss May Anna Willey, February 14, 1917, to which union six children were born. Three preceded him in death, dying in their infancy, leaving one son, Earnest Preston, two daughters, Mrs. Claude Eastman and Mrs. Wilson DePhillips, and four grandchildren, also a number of relatives and friends.

He seemed to love the truth all these years and seemed to be happy as he sang some spiritual hymns during his

illness in which the family found comfort, though he did not leave a definite testimony behind.

Funeral services were conducted at the Wilson Willey cemetery by Bro. and Sister Ray Key. Scripture reading: Amos 4:12, Rev. 14:13, 2 Cor. 5:1-10, 17, 1 Cor. 15:51.
—Sister Katherine Key

John Clyde Stroud, son of Richard and Cordia Stroud, was born October 19, 1896 near Napier, Mo., and passed away at his sister's home near Union Star, Mo., on February 10, 1964 at the age of 67 years, three months and 22 days. He was the oldest of ten children. His parents and two brothers preceded him in death. He is survived by four brothers, Everett of Mountain View, Ark., Clarence of Downey, Calif., Owen of Oregon, Mo., and Virgil of Maitland, Mo.; three sisters, Mrs. Mamie Butcher of Bigelow, Mo., Mrs. Elsie Owens of Union Star, Mo., and Mrs. Goldie Knapp of Forest City, Mo., other relatives and his many friends.

He was converted many years ago, later drifting away from the Lord. However, a number of weeks before his passing he repented and had a bright testimony of acceptance with God. He was a great comfort to all who knew him, and was always willing to lend a helping hand to those in need. He loved the outdoors where he spent many hours. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Darius Gibson, assisted by Bro. Roy Harmon. Text: Psalm 8:3, 4.

Sister Dessa Mabel Gibson was born February 8, 1895 at Sparta, Mo. and departed this life at her home near Joplin, Mo., February 10, 1964 at the age of 69 years and two days. She was united in holy matrimony to Bro. Asa R. Gibson Sept. 7, 1913. She and Bro. Gibson were very devoted to one another.

Sister Gibson was a very devoted wife and mother in the home, very faithful at the house of God, a woman of many burdens and sorrows but always with a smile. Those who knew her best, loved her most. Bro. Gibson testified for her, that after she found peace with God, she was a perfect woman.

She leaves to mourn her passing her husband, Bro. Asa Gibson, (a brother to Bro. Darius Gibson), three sons, Russell of Kansas City, Mo., Ray of St. Louis, Mo., and John of Joplin, Mo.; four daughters, Martha Thurman of Saginaw, Mo., Roberta Spencer, Joplin, Mo., Nelva Stanley, Carthage, Mo., and Violet Heineman, Joplin, Mo., two sisters, 17 grandchildren, six great grandchildren, other relatives, saints and friends.

Funeral services were conducted in Joplin, Mo., by Bro. Charles R. Smith, assisted by Bro. Vada McMillian.

Sister Frances E. Dixon, the daughter of John and Ann Higgs, was born Nov. 15, 1869 in Forman, Ark. and departed this life Feb. 21, at the age of 94 years, three months and six days.

In 1896 she was united in marriage to William J. Dixon. To this union six children were born, four boys and two girls. In 1912 she was left alone to care for her small children. In 1916 she was saved in the Church of God who taught and practiced holiness. There she remained a faithful and dutiful Christian to the end, showing the ways of Christ by precept and example. She was loved by all who knew her.

She leaves to mourn her passing, two brothers, two sisters, four sons, Edward R., Oscar W., Earnest R., of Okmulgee, Okla., and William C., Fresno, Calif.; two daughters, Mrs. Lula C. Miles, Los Angeles, Calif., and

Mrs. Anita S. Daniel, Fresno, Calif., 44 grandchildren, 91 great grandchildren, three great great grandchildren, a host of other relatives, saints and friends.

We all loved her and will miss her greatly but God loved her best because He took her in His all-wise providence to eternal Rest.

The footprints on the sands of time she made is a very good pattern and example for those left behind to follow.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Woodrow Warren, assisted by Bros. Sam Barton, Ulysses Phillips, and others.

Prayer Requests

A request has been written by letter that special day of fasting and prayer be observed by the saints on Wednesday, April 8, for the following requests: Bro. Tom Crews of Alabama who has a cancer on his face; Bro. John Wilson of Springfield, Mo., who is badly afflicted with palsy; Sister Sylvia Busbee of Springfield who has a very bad cough, and Bro. Murphy Allen of Carterville, Mo., who has stomach trouble and is very weak in body. Also remember Sister Darius Gibson who has a growth on her neck and Sister Helen White of Oregon who is afflicted.

Let all the saints agree in prayer for these on that day, and include the list below. The needs are great, but our High Priest is abundantly able and willing to answer every request. "Have faith in God."

Va.—Pray for a sister who has cancer.

Ohio.—Pray that I will be able to sleep at night. I have a serious nervous condition.

Pa.—My mother has high blood pressure and cancer.

Ill.—Remember earnestly my unsaved husband.

Ore.—Pray for my unsaved children.

Kansas.—God is dealing with my son and wife. Pray for their salvation.

Ky.—The Lord is dealing with my children and families since the death of my grandson. Pray for them.

Ark.—Pray for me. I have arthritis, diabetes and high blood pressure.

Okla.—Pray for my grandson that the Lord will heal his leg. He limps.

Colo.—I am 92 years old and afflicted. Pray for me.

Wash.—Pray that the Lord heal an irritation in my eyes.

Okla.—The Lord healed me of cancer when I was not given long to live. The devil is trying to bring back symptoms.

Ga.—I want to be saved and healed.

Okla.—I am nervous and afflicted. Have a serious unspoken request.

Okla.—Pray the Lord to bless in a business venture so I can help with the work of the Lord.

Okla.—I have a roaring in my head.

Va.—I have a lump in my breast.

Miss.—Pray that some minister will come here to have a meeting.

Ill.—I have poor circulation, heart trouble. My husband claims to be saved but has the tobacco habit. Pray for us.

Canada.—I have lump in mouth and neck, creeping paralysis, and other diseases. (This dear sister sent in almost a hundred yearly subscriptions for the "Faith and Victory.")

Calif.—My ears ring and I have high blood pressure.

Ky.—I am old and afflicted. My son needs God.

Miss.—I have hernia and colon trouble.

Texas.—My sister has asthma.

Jamaica, W. I.—I am sick with bad eyes and nerves.

Ga.—I have arthritis. I have four girls who need me.

Mo.—My little nephew is very afflicted. He believes the Lord will heal him.

Wis.—Pray that the Lord will sanctify me and deliver me from self-pity.

Mich.—My husband has hardening of the arteries of the legs and a ligament ailment in leg joint.

Ark.—Pray for Bro. N. E. Adams who has poor eyesight.

Wisconsin.—Please pray for my sanctification.

Indiana.—Please pray for the salvation of my wife who has sued for a divorce.

Calif.—Pray for our oldest girl who has a speech defect and fainting spells.

There are more requests than the ones mentioned, which come in here to the office. Our older saints may not be able to get out and go as they used to, but they can be prayer warriors at home. Pray for these dear ones until you know God has heard and answered. Pray for the work of the Lord here at the office. We are very dependent upon God. —M. Miles

Prayer For Healing

Oh, make me well, completely heal,
My dear kind loving Lord;
There's naught too hard for you to do,
According to your Word.

I'll trust you, Lord, unto the end,
I know you love me still;
I will obey your sweet commands
And do your precious will.

I know you have the healing pow'r,
And it is there for me;
Lord, help me to accept it now,
Submitting all to Thee.

Let me now feel thy tender touch
Upon my aching brow;
Low at thy feet in earnest prayer
To Thee I humbly bow.

Hear thou my feeble cry, O Lord,
And turn me not away;
Though so unworthy I may be,
Please heal me, Lord, today.
—Effie Miller

Meeting Notices

OKLAHOMA CITY REVIVAL MEETING

A revival meeting at the Church of God chapel at 1628 N. E. 50th, Okla. City, will begin on April 5 and continue as long as the Lord leads. All-day services will be held on April 12. —Archie Souders, Pastor

BOLEY, OKLA. SPRING MEETING

The annual Spring meeting of the Church of God at Boley, Okla. will be held, Lord willing, on April 17 to 26. We are looking to the Lord to send ministers of His own choosing. All are welcome to come.

—Sister Ora Spears, Rt. 1, Box 108, Boley

REVIVAL MEETING AT WEST MONROE, LA.

The saints in West Monroe, La. will have a revival meeting, Lord willing, beginning April 12, 1964, which is our all-day meeting. We are looking to the Lord to send in ministers of His choosing to help us. For further information, contact Bro. B. E. Goldsberry, 403 Cooper St., West Monroe, La., 71291. Phone No. 325-0270.

GOSPEL SINGING AT SHAWNEE, OKLA.

A gospel singing of the Church of God will be held at Shawnee, Okla. on Friday night, 8 p. m., April 10. Come and let us magnify the Lord with "hymns and spiritual songs." The singing will be held at the saints' chapel, 230 South McKinley St., Shawnee, Okla. where Bro. Charles R. Smith is the pastor.

Campmeeting Dates for 1964

Following are some of the Church of God campmeeting dates for the coming summer. The complete notices for each will appear in later issues.

Tulsa, Okla. Campmeeting at Pine Place and Norfolk Ave.
—June 5 to 14.

Holly Hill, S. C. Campmeeting — June 5 to 14. Oneal Pratt, Rt. 1, Box 38, Holly Hill, S. C.

Hoffman, Okla., Campmeeting — June 19 to 28.

General Southern Campmeeting at Hammond, Louisiana.
—June 26 to July 5.

Oregon Campmeeting at Jefferson, Oregon. — June 26 to July 5.

Green Pastures, Okla. Campmeeting — July 10 to 19.

Akron, Ohio Campmeeting — July 10 to 19.

National Campmeeting at Neosho (Monark Springs), Mo.
—July 24 to Aug. 2.

Oklahoma State Campmeeting at Guthrie, Oklahoma.
—August 7 to 16.

Bakersfield, Calif., Campmeeting — Aug. 7 to 16.

Missouri State Campmeeting at Myrtle, Mo. — Aug. 21-30

California State Campmeeting at Pacoima, California.
—August 28 to Sept. 6.

Dover, Okla. Campmeeting — Sept. 4 to 14.

WORK DAYS ON NATIONAL CAMPGROUND

There will be a work day for the purpose of general cleanup at the Monark Springs, Mo. Campgrounds on Saturday, April 4. Bring rakes, shovels, and willing hands to work.

On Saturday, April 25, there will be another work day to attend to further repairs and improvements on the grounds.

The grounds need to be rewired for electricity, a new stairway built for the women's dormitory, painting of buildings, a better public address system for tabernacle and dining hall, and construction of a place to baptize on the spring-fed creek nearby. For more information on the work days and plans, or to contribute financially for these improvements, please write to the undersigned or to Bro. Ralph Beisly, 407 Eldridge St., Coffeyville, Kansas.

Let's all work together in this endeavor. Remember these dates and come to work as unto the Lord. If you knew Jesus would be there in person, you would make an effort to be there. And He will be there in His people!

—Kenneth Probst, Business Manager
Rt. 4, Box 172, Carthage, Mo.

**NIGERIAN MISSIONARY REPORT
FOR FEBRUARY**

The native minister, Bro. B. U. Etuk, of the Church of God mission in Nigeria, Africa has sent in a detailed report of their activities for the month of February. Following are the highlights of that report:

On Feb. 2 a New Year communion service was held at the chapel at Minya Ntak, the service beginning at 10 a. m. and conducted by Bro. Paul M. Umo. Then Bro. Etuk delivered a short sermon using the text in 1 Thess. 5:9, 10. After hymns were sung, the communion symbols were served to an eager anxious congregation. The service closed at 1 p. m. Total attendance numbered 508.

Again on Feb. 16 the Minya Ntak congregation played host to the visiting stations in a general service. Evangelist B. E. Udoka conducted the service which opened at 10 a. m. Bro. W. G. Udoffia gave an impressive sermon on "The Redeemer's Love," taking the text in St. John 3:16. Attendance: 472.

A report was made of the monthly business meeting, in which they discussed their plans for building an addition to their headquarters' station building, which they feel is the most important project at this time.

We also have correspondence from another native evangelist, A. A. Alalibo, in another large city in Nigeria who writes that he has a small holiness church there and is endeavoring to expand his activities. This man's teachings and practice have been verified to us by letter from an American missionary in that area.

In answer to the prayers of the saints and the leadings of the Lord we are very pleased to announce that some of our American ministers are making definite plans to go to Nigeria as soon as the official papers are completed, and hope to have a more definite statement in the next issue.

Continue to pray that every hindrance will be removed, and that this "Macedonian" call from Nigeria will be answered very soon. —Lawrence Pruitt

POEM BOOK FREE

Bro. R. H. Douglas, Rt. 2, Box 21, Edmond, Okla. has written and published a nice book of 141 pages of religious poems entitled "How's Your Pulse?" He has a few left, and will send a copy free and postpaid to each of the first 25 persons who send him their name and address and request a copy.

NOTICE TO C. O. BOYS

The boys who are conscientious objectors to military training and service and classified I-O by their draft boards, are required to perform two years of alternate service in work of "national importance and public welfare," such as hospitals and charitable institutions. At present a number of C. O. boys have volunteered and are doing their required work in the Kansas City area where they are privileged to worship with the saints of the Church of God in a nice place in the home of the pastor, Bro. Roy Harmon, 7522 Hardy St., Overland Park, Kansas. If any other C. O. boys want to go to the Kansas City area for their required work, Bro. and Sister Roy Harmon and the saints there will welcome you to their congregation. Just go to your local draft board, volunteer for the alternate service, tell them you want to go to the Kansas City area, and ask them to handle your application for employment. —Editor.

TESTIMONIES

La.—Dear precious Saints and readers of "Faith and Victory" paper, greetings to you and praise to our Lord for all of His wonderful works to the children of men:

Tonight finds me saved and sanctified and walking in peace with my Lord and Saviour. Praise the Lord for this heavenly blessing—a joy the world knows nothing of, and I know that it is only through the grace of God that I know about it. It is not by works, lest any man should boast, but through humility of heart and with this grace of God are we saved. Lately I have learned better how to appreciate salvation, this precious treasure, which satisfies my soul.

The saints in the Hammond and Loranger congregations feel that the Lord has sent another special favor our way by the coming of dear Bro. and Sister Abbott. The week's meeting they held was surely blessed of the Lord and our souls were refreshed. I am happy to report that I can see a deepening down in the Lord in some of the folks here in both congregations. Oh, how we thank God for each one!

We are climbing up the ladder with our eyes on heaven, looking forward that we reach the top safely.

We prayed much for the Lord to direct, while the way was open, and it remained open while we prayed and waited on the Lord to direct the pastor fitted for the job to carry on with the pastoral work here in Hammond. We knew that only God knew what we needed and how to work. Bro. Max Williamson had his heart open with an eye single to the glory of God, and he waited patiently and prayed much. There were those who prayed about coming and those who said, "If the Lord directs, we'll go." We waited and prayed and in the process of time Bro. Williamson let us know that the Lord was leading him to take up the pastoral work again, which he very humbly did. And we thank the Lord for him. God is using him in a wonderful way. My soul is blessed under the messages he brings forth, and we feel without a doubt that he is in the order of the Lord, filling his place in the body of Christ. Holy Spirit leadership is our only safe guide. It will never fail us. But we had better know that it is the Holy Spirit. 1 John 4:1 says, "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God, because many false prophets are gone out into the world." Praise the Lord for true servants!

All you who know the worth of prayer, let us pray much that the Lord will help people to fully realize that failure to walk in all the light that God shines upon them will cause their light to become darkness. It is a sad thing to see people make a high profession and not have the grace of God in their hearts and not bearing fruit for God. We know that we have a mighty God to whom we can look for help for both soul and body, One with whom we can communicate in prayer and we know He hears and answers our prayers.

God's people do not have time for the world's religions. We have salvation and it is worth more to us than the world full of gold—a treasure that cannot be bought with money. It is something our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ bled and died for. And praise the Lord, later He sent His Holy Spirit to live in hearts to keep His people full of grace, enabling them to live pure, holy, and free from sin here in this world. We live in the world, but we are not of the world. Jesus prayed in John 17:15, 16, "I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world."

Recently I was led to my knees in prayer with a heavy heart, all because of the sins of those who have gone past feeling, it seems. As I tried to pray, I said, "Dear Father in heaven," and when I had thus said, I caught a glimpse of Him. He let me know some of His purity. This was a precious scene to my soul. I am so glad the way to heaven is pure and holy. This is the only thing that will satisfy the soul.

Dear saints of God, we have the best thing this side of heaven. Let us value it with all of our heart and soul. Let us be forever aware of the fact, as dear Bro. George Stevenson used to say, "My soul requires my constant attention." This being the case, there is no room for or any need for the worldly social order and recreation.

My heart is full of love for all of God's people, wherever they may be. I think of all the different saints I have met from time to time and long to see you and to let you know I love you and want to see you make it into heaven. My dear sisters and brothers, I want to meet you there. Let us realize the value of this salvation—a treasure that never grows old.

Your sister in the One body, —Gladys Cashio

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Mo.—Dear Saints of God: The dear Lord has been so very near to us this winter. He protected us on the highways across the country, blessed our souls in several precious meetings, and supplied our needs in very miraculous ways. At the time of our sorrow, the loss of our little son, the Lord proved more than ever that He loved us, because His comfort enveloped us and His saints were so wonderful to us. Again we can only say, with a prayer on our hearts, may God bless each one.

Some time ago the Lord talked to my heart about trusting Him fully, even to death. I had never been tested with severe affliction, but I told God I would trust Him, for myself and for my children. As I meditated, I could see how many try to preserve their lives by reaching for the best medical aid. But God's Word says, "He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it" Matt. 10:39. Surely this is so, even in the healing of our bodies, for if we trust Him, even unto death, we will have in the end, life everlasting. But if we turn to the arm of flesh, Jeremiah said we would be cursed and spiritual life would be forfeited.

The testing came. I was not even tempted to look to anyone but to God. As I knelt and cried by the bedside of my dying son I told the Lord I would trust His wisdom. I would not hold to Joseph, and did not intend to break the consecration I made when Joseph came. Thus his little life was saved, for Jesus took him to heaven. How could I know what would have been his life had he lived? He might not have sought God's ways, and thus have been lost.

Dear ones, these things have been a great comfort to me. Each time grief begins its grip on my heart I tell the Lord I am glad I let Him have His way. I would not have wanted it any other way.

Then we were tested with the same affliction with our baby. But God saw fit to spare him to us. We are so thankful. He did not let us suffer more than we were able to bear, although we realize some have had to bear even this.

The Lord also laid His hand upon my body. I took a deep chest cold while we were staying at Bro. and Sister Stover's. They were so good to keep us in their home, and unselfishly bore our burdens to the Lord. After we returned home I had a severe attack of pleurisy and suffered intensely. I did not see how I could breathe my next breath. The Lord especially burdened Sister Marie, and she prayed earnestly for me. When we called her

for prayer she could see why the Lord had laid the burden on her heart. Oh, what would we do without the saints! Isn't it wonderful to know someone is praying for us! Many others have also expressed their concern for me. Oh, my heart just swells with thankfulness to God, for He heard their prayers and touched my body. Yet, the enemy is on hand, for I had another slight repeat the other night. Though I still have some weakness, I believe God is going to bring me out. I want Him to have all the glory.

I want to live so I can be worthy of all these past blessings. If we should think for any reason that no more blessings were to come our way, we have had enough of God's love to convince us and constrain us to follow the narrow path unto death.

Christian love, —Sylvia Busbee and family

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La.—To all the dear Saints scattered abroad, again we greet you in Jesus' dear name:

For some time I have wanted to testify to God's goodness to us in keeping us saved and sanctified and subject to God's will. He gives us strength for each day for soul, mind and body as He is our Healer and Keeper. Praise His dear name!

The Lord sent Bro. Martin Samons of Dayton, Ohio, into our community in January and held a meeting. He seemed to be led to preach on sanctification much of the time, and it seemed to me there were more definite cases prayed through to victory at the altar than I had witnessed for some years. And as I watch their lives they seem to bear the fruit of a sanctified life which is very essential. This experience enables one to carry out the Scripture found in 1 Peter 5:10, "But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered awhile, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you."

Bro. and Sister Sam Abbott of Ky. just closed a good and profitable meeting at Hammond of one week's duration, February 23 to March 1. Wonderful truths were brought out from His Word that is rich to the hungry soul. Praise His dear name! They left March 2 for a meeting in Ky., we understand, and we pray God to make them a blessing there and wherever they go.

I tell the saints here we should be fat and flourishing and grow up as calves of the stall as we've had so much good preaching down here. But alas! I fear some take all this for granted. But I'm sure many are profiting thereby.

Eternity is looming in sight for each of us, so let us be sure we are ready to meet the Lord in peace when our time comes to go. With us it is now or never, as life is our dressing room for heaven and the only place of getting right with God and keeping right. God bless all of you dear ones.

Much Christian love to all, —Sis. Katherine Key

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Ohio—Dear Saints, greetings to you in the name of Jesus: I want you to know how I have been blessed by reading the "Faith and Victory." When one is accused of being radical, narrow-minded and selfish, sometimes one begins to wonder, "are you too strict?" Then I got hold of the "Faith and Victory"! I was filled with joy. It brings close the others who are believing and trusting fully in the Saviour. The testimonies and articles are truly uplifting.

My little boy had a wart under his foot for a long time. It got to bothering him pretty badly. Finally it occurred to me that God could take it off; so I asked others who believe in prayer and I started to pray for it constantly. It soon started to get better. One day

after a bath, he looked at his foot and the wart was gone—not a trace! Praise the precious Lord! It was probably about three months after I decided to trust God for it. God never changes. He just requires us to be steadfast and trust Him.

Pray for our little congregation to get on fire for the Lord.

Yours in Christ,

—Sister Alta Farmer

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Minn.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and all the saints, greetings of love in Jesus' precious name: What a mighty God we serve!

It was truly refreshing to read the "Faith and Victory" paper again this month. May God richly bless you for your efforts.

We were glad for all who responded in sending used clothing for the Indian people. They were greatly appreciated. The work is still going on. Souls are being drawn to the Saviour. We are looking forward to another spring break-up when we can travel to the reserves by boat. The Lord gave us a 30-foot boat, which is much safer on rough water.

May God bless and keep His church pure and clean.

In His love, Paul Stoll, Oak Island, Minn. 56741

(Bro. Stoll is ministering the Word of God to the Indians on the reservations in Minnesota. —Editor)

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Calif.—To the dear Saints everywhere, greetings in the precious name of Jesus our Lord: I feel I should testify to the glory of God and tell of some of the rich blessings He has bestowed upon us, but first of all I am thankful for this wonderful salvation that saves and keeps the soul and gives us the pleasure of trusting and living for God.

My husband has had cancer on his lip and not being saved, he has put his case in the doctors' hands. He has had seven or eight operations because of the cancer and is expecting another one soon. With him being away in the Veterans' Hospital much of the time, it leaves us with very little income. Though the Lord has given us part-time work, it does not cover the expenses, but, oh, the joy of trusting God in everything and for everything.

I thought when I read one of Sister Faith Stewart's books how wonderful it would be to trust God for one's needs. Little did I know then that I would be in a place where I would have to do just that. You don't have to think much about it when you have an income. You don't have to exercise much faith, but when you don't have it, you then are put to the test. During the first dark time, God gave me the Scripture in Heb. 13:5, "Let your conversation be without covetousness and be content with such things as ye have, for he has said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." This is a wonderful promise, and a real blessing to me. It gave me strength in my soul to trust and exercise faith. It was put to the test and it brought a contentment to me that I have never forgotten.

Oh, dear Saints, it's blessed to just trust our God. Don't be afraid to trust Him, or trust any of His promises because if we are living to please Him, He will never fail us. He will never let one of His promises fail if we hold steadfast in faith. Contentment comes by perfect trust, and what seem to be dark times becomes light, and we can go on rejoicing right through it all.

Lately God has given me the Scripture in Jer. 33:3, "Call upon me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not." Isn't this a great promise! Already He has shown His hand

in a mighty way and there are greater things yet to come. Praise the Lord!

One of the times when Sam (my husband) was being operated on, he had been in the operating room over eight hours and I was concerned as to why they were keeping him so long. God just spoke to my heart and let me know that He was watching over him. Saints, that was a real encouragement to me, a comfort that God alone can give. Oh, I do love my God and want to walk so close by His side! Sam is not saved, but God will answer His children's prayers for their loved ones.

God has greater things yet to come for his children. How big is our faith in Him? He is limited only by your faith and mine. Let us press forward with new strength and zeal, and let God have a deeper control of our lives. This is the desire of my heart, to let God have His way with me until only He is seen and not the humanity.

Oh, the precious lessons God is teaching me of late! It's like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down Aaron's beard, that went down to the skirts of his garments. (Psa. 133:2) Praise the Lord! He blesses us with so many blessings, healing our bodies, supplying our needs spiritually and whatever they might be.

I also would like to tell of the work God is doing at a prison camp near here at Payne's Creek. Bro. R. F. Wilson of Yuba City, Calif. is chaplain there at the camp. Bro. Wilson, Sister Wilson (when she is able), Bro. and Sister H. P. Huskey and I hold services twice a month at the camp. Some of the men have become saved. We have good attendance at times and some times not so many come, but the ones who do attend seem to be interested. We do appreciate the interest shown and especially do we appreciate the ones who are saved and living for God. Please remember us in your prayers as we endeavor to win souls for the Master. He will soon be coming again and we want to gather all the souls and do all we can before He comes.

Pray that we always seek and do God's will at all times. Also remember my husband and older son for salvation, and the younger one that he will continue to hold on to God's unchanging hand.

Our love and prayers, —Sister Loretta Miles

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Okla.—Dear holy brethren in Christ and "Faith and Victory" readers, greetings in holy love: Praise the dear Lord! My cup of joy is overflowing as I am learning to see God in all things. Truly it is "joy unspeakable and full of glory" to surrender ourselves unconditionally to God and serve Him in the bondage of love, the blessed bondage that sets us perfectly free, free from sin, free from the spirit and nature of the world, and free from our own self-will which provokes both God and man.

About nine years ago God wondrously revealed His blessed truth to my soul, saved me and later sanctified me. And today by the grace of God I can still report victory in my soul. Thank God, He reveals Himself to men, women, boys and girls personally. "The way of salvation, though strait and narrow is not hidden, and there is nothing to hinder any seeking soul from coming in contact with its Maker."

We don't have to take the way Mother, Father, relative or friend does. God wants us to be fully persuaded in our own minds which way is right. And the Bible way is the only way that is right. If we follow man we will listen to his doctrines, not God's. Jesus said, "In vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." Mark 7:7. I blindly followed man's doctrines twice in my early life. First, I repented and got saved, then I joined the Baptist denomination with my

mother, but my soul wasn't satisfied and I longed for a closer walk with God. Next I followed a relative in the Pentecostal religion and received the tongues experience, but that didn't help me to live a better life. I still couldn't live the holy life the Bible required. All that did was to make me more confused. The things I found in these two experiences of man's religion were sin, confusion, pride, foolishness and worldliness which the Bible clearly condemns. I read in God's Word about a life of love, humility and holiness which I didn't possess, nor did I see anyone else with an experience like that. Soon I just quit attending church services anywhere and tried to forget about God.

Then by Divine Providence, I met, fell in love with and married Gene Barton (son of Bro. and Sister Sam Barton) and came in contact with a most peculiar religion. These people called themselves saints, claimed they lived sinless lives and didn't use medicine but prayed to God for their healing. They didn't dress, act, or talk like the world. What a strange group I thought they were, and I formed the opinion that they were too strict and fanatical. I would be nice to them but not get too close to them. However, the more I wanted to distrust and dislike them and their ways, the more I found myself liking them and enjoying being around them. They had something in their lives that was beautiful and desirable. But even though I liked them I still didn't want to believe what they said, since I had been led and influenced by man's ways before, only to be more confused.

Gene and I would go to the saints' meetings once in a while. Then the dear Lord saw fit to let Mom and Dad Barton's car be stolen so we could take them to saints' meetings in other places and I could hear more of God's precious truth. As I heard the truth preached, I realized it was Bible and I liked it. I watched to see if the saints lived what they preached and professed. They did live holy lives. I became more interested in what I heard and saw and started searching the Bible for myself. I went before God on my knees with an honest open heart, begging Him to show me His way. God told me to forget about all other ways of religion and follow Him. As I read His Word, God revealed a holy life to my soul. I had been taught the "once saved, always saved" doctrine and thought I was still saved though living in open sin. God have mercy on souls so deceived by this false doctrine of man! They take the righteousness and obedience of Christ and impute it to themselves, continue in sin and disobedience every day and claim Christ's righteousness as their own. But the righteousness of God that Paul says is imputed to us, covers only our "sins that are past" Rom. 3:25, sins committed before we found Christ. From the moment of our justification, we must, ourselves, live "in holiness and righteousness before him all the days of our life" Luke 1:75.

Jesus said go and "sin no more." John 5:14. And he would be unfair and unjust to require man to do something impossible. The Bible standard is a holy life. See Tit. 2:11, 12; 1 John 3:9; 1 Tim. 2:19; 1 Thess. 2:10; Col. 1:22; Eph. 4:24; Eph. 1:4; 1 Cor. 15:34, 35; 2 Cor. 7:1; Rom. 6:22. God showed me definitely that I was not saved but a lost sinner, and I became earnestly concerned about my soul's lost condition. Thank God, He saw my honest heart and gave the saints a burden to pray for my lost soul. The dear saints didn't compel me to come their way. I would have turned away if they had. I wasn't going to follow man under any condition. Strong conviction seized me as a result of the saints' prayers and stayed with me constantly until it seemed I would lose my mind at times. A promise I had made

God one time returned like thunder to my soul and I couldn't escape its sounding in my ears. The fear of God came upon me because I knew I had promised God I would give my life to Him and hadn't done it. Conviction became stronger and stronger until finally I called on God for mercy, repented and He forgave me my sins for Christ's sake.

Then God began unfolding and blessing His precious Word to my hungry soul. The Bible became a new book to me. As I read and obeyed God's Word to all I knew and understood, the Holy Spirit began teaching me God's precious truth. John 16:13, "He will guide you into all truth." John 7:17, "If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine [God's doctrine]." 1 John 2:27, "Ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him." God's Word and his Holy Spirit are the only teachers any soul needs to guide them into all truth. Thank God, we still have these two teachers to teach, lead, guide and direct us in living for God.

I can never thank God enough for leading my soul out of confusion into the truth. It is nothing short of a miracle. I love God more every day and I know in Him is everything I need, and I thank Him for all the tests, trials and ever-following victories over them in my life.

He is the Great Physician and has healed our family many times. He performed a miracle on our little two-and-a-half-year-old daughter by putting a dislocated hip back in place and making it stay there, when a doctor said she "would have to have an operation and afterwards we wouldn't know if it was a success until she was fifteen years old." Praise God! Our daughter is now over six years old and she plays just as hard and rough as any children her age. Her legs are just the same length and both are strong and normal. Our God did a perfect work. God healed me completely of an affliction I had on my body for nearly a year, and I truly thank Him for the affliction, for He taught me many lessons I needed and drew me closer to Him through it all.

Pray for me. Heaven is my goal at the end of this life's journey. Pray for my dear unsaved companion.

Your sister in the Bible way, —Mona Lee Barton

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Kansas—Dear Saints: Today finds me with a greater desire and ambition to serve the Lord. He has helped me in many ways.

I feel it would be to the glory of the Lord to tell of an experience I had concerning an answer to prayer. I owned a foreign car with an electric clutch. Several times while driving in town the clutch would give me much trouble and sometimes become inoperative. I took it to the dealer to see if he could fix it. He told me it would cost \$14.00 just to have it checked, plus the cost of fixing it. I didn't have the money to spend on it, so my parents and I prayed that the Lord would guide us to the cause. One day shortly afterwards, I drove downtown and the clutch quit operating when I was about fifteen miles from home and I had to be towed home. The next day I was checking the electrical apparatus of the clutch to see if I could find what was wrong. Everything looked all right; I couldn't find a thing wrong. I reminded the Lord that I couldn't afford to have it fixed and asked Him to guide me to the cause. I had my hand on the electrical part while I was trying to think what to do when my fingers touched a wire on which the solder connection had come loose. I immediately knew that was my trouble and that the Lord had answered prayer. I soldered the connection back and the clutch operated perfectly as long as I had the car.

I have found that it pays, not only spiritually, but also financially as well to serve the Lord. The Lord will help us with the many problems of life if we'll only ask Him.

Pray for me that I will know the Lord's will in all things and I'll always do His will.

Your brother in Christ,

—Bob Harmon

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Okla.—Dear Bro. Lawrence, Sister Anna Marie and all the saints everywhere, greetings of love to each one: We feel it would be good to tell of some of the blessings of the Lord to us recently. Surely we are serving a mighty God.

On Thursday, January 23, 1964, my husband, Paul Eck, was pulling trees on the west place. It was about noon when a tree broke about one-third of the way up and it hit him on the head knocking him forward off the tractor and under the back right wheel. The three men helping said the tractor ran over him, across his stomach and as it went over, his eyes just bulged out. But later it appeared from the bruises that the tractor went over him slanting from the right hip bone over and across the left arm and shoulder. Only God knows exactly what happened. One of the men came at once for me and wanted me to call an ambulance. The man said, "He said call it." (But Paul said later he didn't think he said it.) I hardly knew what to do; we were all so excited. I tried to call his brother, Edwin, and couldn't get them, so I called the ambulance and a neighbor and then rushed to Paul. He talked to me, but was in great pain. I fell on the ground by him and began begging the Lord to help us. I didn't think Paul ever lost consciousness as he talked to me and knew everyone all along, but he has forgotten and doesn't seem to know now, how nor what happened. I really don't know, but I was so thankful he could talk to me. The ambulance arrived. They wanted to know the name of our doctor. Of course I told them we didn't have a family doctor, and I couldn't even think of a doctor's name for awhile. First they wanted to know what hospital and I didn't know what to say as I didn't know anything about any of them. The neighbor lady said, "You had better go to Enid Memorial," so that is where they took us. Paul had quite a cut on his chin, his nose had been bleeding and he kept saying his left arm hurt so badly that he thought it must be broken. The doctor on duty when we got there was a Dr. Scott. We had never seen him before but he was very nice and respected our belief and was nice when different ones came in to pray.

They took some X-rays but Paul was in so much pain they quit. By this time Paul was vomiting blood and did so up into the night. I saw the X-rays the first night and the doctor said that Paul was a very fortunate man not to be more broken up. There was a cracked vertebra on the right side of his neck and one in the lower back. These were to the side, not the main ones, also a brain concussion. The doctor said the bleeding was from the head because of the terrible blow on it and if that didn't stop, he might have to operate. I told him that the Lord would take care of that and it was a miracle Paul wasn't killed. I think the Lord had already answered prayer and the doctor said, "If all goes well, you can take him home the first of the week." Of course I got in touch with Clara (Paul's sister) as soon as I could and she called the saints and Paul's people right away. I also called my sister-in-law, Hazel Bock.

This surely has been a miracle and we give God all the praise. They were to take some more X-rays on Friday and I began to beg the Lord not to let them show anything wrong and they didn't. The doctor said, "Do

you know the great hand of God just reached down and held the weight of that wheel or it would have killed him." This is a big tractor, a 4010 John Deere. We were told today that the wheel would weigh a good ton or more.

Paul suffered a lot with his head but the Lord was good to undertake and we came home about noon the following Monday. Paul was very weak and couldn't keep much food down. Everyone around, nurses and all, seemed so shocked that we were released so soon. The first night at home about 11:30 Paul's suffering was getting so bad and we prayed and prayed, called some of the saints, but seemed as if he couldn't endure much more, so some of the Enid saints came out around 4 a. m. They anointed and prayed for him and he dropped off to sleep before they left around 5 a. m. How we did thank the Lord! He suffered some after that, too, but not so severely.

Different loved ones and saints came in all along and we surely did appreciate them. We want to thank each one for the prayers, pretty cards, kindness and help shown us during this time of trial. On the morning of Feb. 10 Paul came out to the barn and helped milk, just about 18 days after the accident. He really wasn't able, but it looked like our son Gary was taking the mumps and I was afraid for him to be out in the early morning cold. I intended to do the chores alone, but after I was out there awhile, Paul dressed and came out to help. He hated for me to do the work alone.

Paul isn't able to work hard yet, but we are so thankful he is doing so well and we trust the Lord to restore him completely to normal. He still has some other serious afflictions that we desire prayer for.

Terry Lee took the mumps on Saturday after Paul was hurt. Then Gary got them about the 10th of Feb. But the Lord was good and they weren't too sick. And the Lord protected Paul and me from taking them for which we are so thankful.

Jeanie (my sister-in-law) stayed with us two weeks, for which we were so very thankful. She was a real help and comfort.

Words just can't express how grateful we are to God for His many blessings and to the people of God for their prayers in our behalf. We desire to live for the Lord and be a witness for Him at all times. Do pray for us.

Christian love, —Paul and Christine Eck

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Ark.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and Sister Marie, greetings in Jesus' name: may God's rich blessings of love and courage be upon you, and each one of the workers at the print shop. I love to read the "Faith and Victory" paper. The testimonies are so encouraging, and the prayer requests interest me. I try to remember each one in prayer. I am so thankful I have learned to love and trust in God, and not be afraid. I know His promises are the sure mercies of David. I have tried the Lord and I know He will sustain us in every test. He has taken me through many trials these 50 years. Much sickness and death have come to our home—long dark hours. These just drew me closer to Him who suffered so much more for me. His Holy Spirit is such a real comfort and will always lead us if we will be humble enough to follow. He will give songs in the night and in the midst of praise. He sends some of His dear saints to cheer us, also.

Bro. Probst came by several days ago. How we did enjoy his few minutes' visit! Then the first Sunday night of this month Bro. and Sister Albert Eck and their daughter came, and the Roy Bradley family and we had service here in our home. It was the first time we had met Bro. and Sister Eck but they just seemed like we

had known them. Oh, the fellowship of God's dear ones is wonderful! What will it be when we can be where all the dear saints are, where we can see Jesus in the world without end.

I am so thankful for the Golden Rule Home for the aged at Shawnee, Okla. and for the way the children of God are helping in every way they can.

A little more than a week ago the Lord healed my left wrist. I didn't hurt or strain it in any way—it just got painful in the night, and so much more the next day. By night I could hardly bear to move my hand, but my whole trust was in God. The second morning it was much better, and by the next day all the pain and soreness was gone, and thank God, it still is. All glory be to God forever! How we ought to love and trust in Him, so some day we can meet Him in peace.

I do pray the Lord to bless and keep his dear saints, and to draw others to Him, and let us be faithful in prayer for each other.

Yours in the love of God, —Mrs. N. E. Adams

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Santa Catarina, Baja Mission, Old Mexico—Our dear Marie, greetings of love to you in our precious Saviour's name: He has been so good to us. I surely enjoy the precious true Word that still comes out in the "Faith and Victory" paper. We all appreciate your good work there and also the others.

We are surely encouraged here with the good number that comes out to services to hear the Word. Souls are being saved from a life of hate into the wonderful light of God's love.

This is a beautiful sunny day. I am outside by a high rock. It is so pretty and peaceful here.

A pretty young Spanish girl has been with us in our cottage this week. She got saved two weeks ago and wanted to learn how to live for God. She reads her Bible every morning and night and prays with us.

Yesterday when Brother Tomas, our Spanish worker, went to the valley three Mexicans accepted Jesus and want to live for God.

Our services are very encouraging with testimonies and so many willing to read Scripture. Some are being saved. We are encouraged. God is working here. Keep praying for us.

Your sister in Christ, —Carrie Shepherd

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Georgia—Dear Sir: I am a boy eighteen years old. I have been born again and am living for the Lord. The Lord has called me to preach and I am doing my best to carry the Word of God. I want to win more lost souls to God than I am now. These tracts, I believe, will help me. I am just a poor boy and don't have a job. Therefore I cannot send any money. If you can send these tracts [marked on the list] and any others that will help me, they will be used for the glory of God. These tracts help me to live a Christian life. I'm sure they will help others to live for God and help the lost to be saved. Please send as many as you can.

Pray for me, and may God bless you.

Yours truly, —James Southerland

(These tracts we sent were supplied through the Free Literature Fund.—Editor)

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

La.—Dear Saints, May God bless each of His dear children everywhere: I haven't written my testimony for the "Faith and Victory" paper for some time and feel lead to do so.

The Lord has been so very good to me, also my family, down through the years. Time and space will not permit me to tell all God's goodness shown to us.

He has healed many times, also encouraged our hearts. Thanks be to God for His many blessings.

My girls and I enjoyed, very much, being in the Guthrie Assembly meeting. I was anointed and prayed for while there, for a condition in my neck and shoulder which seemed to be a goiter. I had pains in my neck, also my shoulder. I even wondered sometimes if it might be cancer, but knew God was my great Physician and I trusted Him to do what He saw best. After I was anointed and prayed for, I seemed to suffer worse for approximately two or three weeks. I felt that the enemy was imposing on me and requested prayer at meeting, also wrote to others for prayer. Soon my neck and shoulder were almost completely relieved of the pain. Praise the Lord! The lump is still there but I know that the same God who took away the pain can take away the lump in my neck. So please pray for me. I appreciate each one who was concerned and prayed for me and I thank each of you.

A few weeks ago I was ironing and felt so burdened down and depressed and was letting my mind dwell too much on discouraging things. Then the Lord began to talk to me and encouraged my soul. At this special time I was suffering with affliction, also. Then scripture came to me written in Phil. 4:8 which says, "Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are lovely ... think on these things," so I began meditating on good things. Then I thought of the scripture which says, "If God be for us, who can be against us," also "my grace is sufficient for thee." I thought also of how Jesus had to bear the cross alone and how we have Him to help us bear our cross. The song, "Jesus Has Been So Good to Me," came to my mind and I began singing it. Oh, how I felt the very Spirit of God right there with me. Let us look up to God in every trouble and He will bless our souls. Pray for us. Pray for my unsaved husband.

A Sister in Christ,

—Cassie Price

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Mich.—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus to all the dear saints everywhere: I'm writing just a few words in testimony to tell of God's love for me and how He healed me of tonsillitis. I feel well and happy in the Lord. It seems so good to be well again. All praise to Him! In the 34th Psalm, 19th verse, it says, "Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivereth him out of them all." So dear saints, keep looking up. God is still on His throne, and He loves you very much. May God bless all of you is my prayer. —Olive Schaub

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Wisconsin—Please send me the "Faith and Victory" paper for one year. I have been getting it for three months. Some blessed soul sent it to me and I thank them very much. Please send me a few tracts.

Thank you and may God bless you. —Lettie Coleman

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Okla.—Dear Bro. Lawrence and Print Shop Workers, we greet you in the name of our Saviour, Jesus: It has been on our mind for quite some time to send our testimony. I have been saved for about 15 years and have never testified through the "Faith and Victory" of God's goodness to me and my family. We do not expect to take up very much space so we will condense our words the best we can.

As we were on the downward road like many others, the Spirit of the Lord spoke and we yielded to Him. We are glad to tell the world of what a blessing it has been to us. Time and space would not permit us to tell the half of our journey along the pilgrim ways of life. Not long after being saved I was going to take a trip to California with Bro. Fred Pruitt and on the morning of

the day of our departure the Lord permitted my wife, just newly come to the faith, to take down with a spell of sickness that seemed would take her on from this life. After several hours of hard fighting on our knees, the victory came. I remember one dear warrior, Sister Mattie Wilson, that day who stood by us like a rock in the billows.

We feel the need of God to help us to fight a good fight. We have been pastoring the Sapulpa Road congregation (Sapulpa, Okla.) for almost ten years. It is wonderful how the Lord has helped in many trials. We have had sorrows, hardships, heartaches and many other things, but feel like Paul of old who said in Romans 8:18, "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that shall be revealed in us."

We want to say to all the saints, be of good courage, the windows of heaven are still open.

Christian love,

—Bro. Richard Madden

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Ohio—Dear Sister Marie, Bro. Lawrence, workers and saints abroad, greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ: My soul does magnify my Lord today.

We are enraptured by His glorious blessing in our soul, also for the victory He has given us here in Akron, Ohio. We came here from Los Angeles, Calif., our home for over 20 years, on November 21, 1963. The Lord had burdened my heart with this work for some time, yet I felt much too small for the task. But my Lord's demands were ever before me. After agonizing in "Gethsemane" for a length of time, I came forth with the prayer of King Solomon on my lips and my Lord met us here. Now in these few precious months we have been here, words are inadequate to express His blessings bestowed upon us. He has blessed us with many cases of healings, saving souls, with the second work of grace added which is sanctification; encouraging and helping many. One man who gave his heart to the Lord was saved from a long-time drink habit, two who are now our sisters in Christ were saved from the habit of smoking a pack of cigarettes a day. We surely praise God's name for His blessings, and we are expecting greater victories.

We also would like to report how the Lord helped us to become an incorporated congregation here, and by faith we are buying or rather negotiating for a new chapel, praying that we can meet all requirements, including the money needed. We do solicit your prayers and help in any way the Lord would burden your heart to help in this matter. We are expecting to have everything ready for our campmeeting which will convene July 10 and continue through the 19th, if the Lord wills. We expect to have the cooperation of other congregations in Ohio and the saints in adjoining states.

We are extending an invitation to all who can come and are expecting the help of God's Spirit-filled ministers. The need of a meeting is great. We are constantly coming in contact with souls who are confused or needing help, so we are asking all that know the worth of prayer to keep us on your prayer list that this work may abound in the Lord. May God bless all is my prayer.

—Sister Hazel A. Clark, 502 Euclid Ave., Akron, Ohio.

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Okla.—Dear Sister Miles: I received the letter and the tracts and have just about given them all out. I certainly enjoy reading your encouraging letters.

Monday was check day with us old folks; day to go and pay our bills. I went to pay my phone bill and fell on the hard concrete floor. It seemed like it shook me

up inside at the time. A woman asked me if it hurt me. I told her it shook me up some. She said, "You will feel it tomorrow." I trusted the Lord and He took care of me. My steps are slow and weak but the Lord understands. I was 83 the 6th of January and the Lord takes care of me. I live alone, just Jesus and me.

I am sending a dollar for an offering. Please pray much for me.

Your sister in Christ, —Lizzie Randles

Ohio—Dear Friends in Christ, greetings in Jesus' precious name: I thank you very kindly for sending me your wonderful paper, "Faith and Victory." Please accept my gratitude for this and may the Lord bless you in your ministry of the printed page.

I ask a continued interest in your prayers for my work here that it may go forward to the glory of God. I praise Him for the way He has been helping me. We are serving a wonderful Saviour.

May God bless you. —Mrs. George Stokes

Oregon—Dear Sister Marie: I would like for you to send me an assortment of tracts. I feel the Lord has called me to be a tract missionary.

Please pray for me. I love the dear Lord and want to do all I can to help precious souls to find the true church. God has so wonderfully led me to the people of God. My home is in Seattle, Wash., but I spend most of my time here with the dear saints in Jefferson.

May the dear Lord bless you one and all. I would also like to put in a request for my unsaved children and grandchildren. Please pray for them.

Your sister in the Lord, —Lillie M. Greenway

Calif.—Dear Saints and friends: This leaves us saved, sanctified, and satisfied deep down in our hearts. We are encouraged more than ever before to live for the Lord. We are so happy that the Lord saved us before it was too late. It means so much to live for the Lord. If only the people would just stop and think of what He has done for us—died on the cross that we might be saved from our sins!

Bro. Chandler, our pastor, has been giving us good teaching on different things. We are surely blessed to have a pastor like him. We, as saints, had better take heed to the teaching we get.

I'm so glad that the Lord is our Healer, Guide, and everything we need. We are so thankful for how the Lord healed our baby. She had the diarrhea real bad, but we called on God and He came to her rescue. We prayed that God would just have His own way, no matter which way it went. We are thankful that He let her stay here awhile longer.

The Lord has healed us all so many times. I want to give the Lord praise for the little things as well as the big things that He does for us.

I want you to remember me in prayer. I have severe headaches. But my trust is fully in God. Pray that we will be in this life what He wants us to be.

The "Faith and Victory" is surely encouraging. May the Lord bless each one is our prayer.

Yours in Christ, —Earl and Earleen Jackson

Calif.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and all, greetings in Christian love: I am so thankful for the goodness of the Lord to me and mine. I am praising Him for how He healed our son, Phillip, recently of near-pneumonia. Surely our faith was tested. I believe I am safe in saying his fever was well over 100 degrees. We did not have it checked. We are giving the Lord praise for

His love and concern, and how He likes to show His goodness to those who trust in Him. Though it took prayer and fasting, the Lord stood by us. Truly, to know Him is to love and serve Him. Our prayer and desire is to walk worthy of the calling wherewith we have been called. Pray for us. —Edward V. Davenport

Calif.—Dear faithful workers and brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus: Please pray for our five-year-old son, Gregg, who has a lingering bronchial cough and congestion.

We thank the dear Lord for His saving grace and for His healing power during my past illness. We wish to thank all the dear saints for their prayers during my illness. My wife and I love the Lord and want to follow Him during our stay on this earth.

We pray the Lord's blessings to be with the devoted workers at the publishing house. —Elmer Fingerle

Kansas—Dear Saints, We are so happy that the Lord saw fit to save us. Since we've been saved, the Lord has really blessed us and taught us so many good lessons.

A few weeks ago, Keith was helping at the church building in Wichita when he fell and broke two ribs. This caused him some pain, and he couldn't sleep well at night. Also he didn't have much of an appetite. So at services he went forward and was anointed and prayed for. Since that time he has had no more pain and the ribs are completely healed. It's so wonderful what the Lord can and does do.

We are building an addition on our chapel here. Several of the men have fallen and hurt themselves, but the Lord has undertaken for each one. We surely thank the Lord for blessing each one, and ask your prayers that we might finish the building soon.

May the Lord bless everyone at the print shop. Also please remember us in your prayers that we will be what the Lord would have us to be.

Yours in Christ, —Keith and Janet Marsh

Miss.—Dear Editor: I have received the little paper, "Faith and Victory," for the past few months and thank the one who sent it to me, and also the publishing house. It is real food to one's soul. I think it is nearer what I find taught in God's Word than anything I have read yet.

—Mrs. Tressie Sivils

BIBLE STUDY

Primary Picture Roll, \$1.75; Lesson cards 12c

April 5, 1964

THIS IS GOD'S UNIVERSE

Printed Portion Isaiah 40:12-26

Isa. 40:12 Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?

13 Who hath directed the Spirit of the Lord, or being his counsellor hath taught him?

14 With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding?

15 Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing.

16 And Lebanon is not sufficient to burn, nor the beasts thereof sufficient for a burnt offering.

17 All nations before him are as nothing; and they are counted to him less than nothing, and vanity.

18 To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him?

19 The workman melteth a graven image, and the goldsmith spreadeth it over with gold, and casteth silver chains.

20 He that is so impoverished that he hath no oblation chooseth a tree that will not rot; he seeketh unto him a cunning workman to prepare a graven image, that shall not be moved.

21 Have ye not known? have ye not heard? hath it not been told you from the beginning? have ye not understood from the foundations of the earth?

22 It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in:

23 That bringeth the princes to nothing; he maketh the judges of the earth as vanity.

24 Yea, they shall not be planted; yea, they shall not be sown: yea, their stock shall not take root in the earth: and he shall also blow upon them, and they shall wither, and the whirlwind shall take them away as stubble.

25 To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One.

26 Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power: not one faileth.

Memory Verse: The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. Psalm 24:1.

Practical Truth: God is just as big to us as we count Him to be.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

There is no architect that is as great as our God. No human designer can say that he was the designer of the universe. Even the foolish who say the world just came into existence, cannot prove their statements successfully. Every grain of sand, snowflake, leaf and every person's finger prints are different. What a wonderful God we have and there is none like Him! "The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein" *Psa. 24:1*. God created all things and they tell of his great wisdom and power. God upholds the universe "by the word of his power" *Heb. 1:3*. Some day He will cause it to go up in flames by the "word of his power." Only those who are standing on His Word will be preserved. *Matt. 24:35*.

"Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath: for the heavens shall vanish away like smoke, and the earth shall wax old like a garment." *Isa. 51:6*. In our lesson the prophet Isaiah also cries for us to lift up our eyes and behold our great Creator and since we can get a vision of His greatness we should also then look upon the earth beneath. We should see with Jesus the great need for laborers here in this earth. Jesus said, "Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages and gathereth fruit unto life eternal." *John 4:35, 36*. Ask God to give you a greater vision of His greatness and His power to save poor souls who are lost in sin.

April 12, 1964

MAN'S PLACE IN GOD'S UNIVERSE

Printed Portion Psalm 8

Psalm 8:1 O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens.

2 Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

3 When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;

4 What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?

5 For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour.

6 Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet:

7 All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field;

8 The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas.

9 O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!

Memory Verse: Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet. *Psa. 8:6*.

Practical Truth: We need to be good stewards over what God has placed in our hands.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The Psalm that is our lesson today was written by David. We, too, can, with David, consider (verse 3) some of the greatness of God. First when we consider the greatness and excellence of His name, we think of the name of Jesus and how great it is. There is no other name in heaven nor in the earth that is as great. Through his name we obtain salvation, healing, grace each day to live for God without sin, love, protection, answers to prayer and many other blessings. Every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess His name. We too, can praise Him as the children did when Jesus came riding into Jerusalem on the colt. The enemies of Jesus could not still the children. "Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise." "Except ye be converted and become as little children ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." *Matt. 18:3*.

Second, we consider the greatness of His handiwork in the world which is the work of His fingers. Third we consider man and how small he is. He was made lower than the angels. How puny is man's strength in comparison with God's. How frail is the body of man. He soon has to lay his body down and leave this world. His end comes and his work is done here.

Fourth we consider the place that God put man in here in this world. God gave him dominion over all the works of God's hands. "Thou hast put all things under his [man's] feet." (Verse 6, also read *Gen. 1:28*). Man is responsible to God. "We are laborers together with God." *1 Cor. 3:9*.

April 19, 1964

THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY

Printed Portion Eph. 5:21-33; 6:1-4

Eph. 5:21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

22 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:

30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

Eph. 6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.

2 Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;

3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Memory Verse: Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. Eph. 5:21.

Practical Truth: Just as much as we have submitted to God, we will be able to submit to others in the Lord.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

God's plan for a Christian family is perfect and if each member in the family will follow His instructions all will work beautifully. The first words of our lesson are the most important. "Submitting yourselves one to another." By showing humility and concern for others we show our love to God. Stubbornness and rebellion will ruin a home. Love and trust, bearing and forbearing should be manifested in every home. Christ is our example. Jesus submitted His will to His Father. Jesus submitted and laid down his life for you and me. Love caused Him to do this. Love will cause a family to work together for peace and harmony.

The next verse of our lesson brings in the word submit again. Wives are to submit unto their husbands, as unto the Lord. The next verse brings out the thought that as the church submits, honors and obeys Christ, just so the wife honors and submits unto her husband. She knows he will not require anything that is unreasonable or contrary to her best interests. Just as Christ loved the church and gave his life for it, just so the husband loves his wife and would lay down his life for her. There is much food for thought in these verses. Divorce should never be mentioned between husband and wife.

All who are in the Church of God are without a spot or blemish in their lives. Their lives are measured to the

Word of God. The bride of Christ is a glorious church.

Children are to obey or submit to their parents. Parents are to be worthy of honor and respect. They are not to lay on their children more than they can bear. They should teach their children about God and His ways.

April 26, 1964

JOHN TEACHES LOVE

Printed Portion 1 John 4:16-21; 5:1-3

1 John 4:16 And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

17 Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

19 We love him, because he first loved us.

20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

21 And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

5:1 Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.

2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments.

3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

Memory Verse: And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also. 1 John 4:21.

Practical Truth: A little dislike will grow into hate. Hate will grow into murder. Watch what you let grow in your heart.

COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

God is love. Whosoever is born again is born of love. Our hearts were melted with love for Jesus when we realized to the fullest extent that he died in our stead. He was innocent but he willingly gave his life that we might be saved from torment. The suffering that he had to go through was great and all because we had sinned. Love caused Him to bear our sins. God loved us so much that He was willing to give His Son as a sacrifice. Many times we have heard parents say they would rather suffer instead of watching their children suffer. God turned away His face and Jesus cried out, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" Love caused Our Father and our Saviour to be willing to suffer that we might be saved. "We love Him because he first loved us." (v. 19). Our love for God takes away the fear of being lost. We rest in God's love. We will never fear to face God because it has been cast out through love.

If we are begotten of God (born of God) we will love everyone who is begotten of Him. All have the same Father. We are all in one family; all begotten of love. There is a test as to whether we are the children of God. If we love the children of God, then we know we love God. Just as much as you love your brother, then just that much you love God. If we keep God's commandments then we prove we love God. His commandments will not bring grief, but happiness and joy. —Sis. Marie Miles.